

Report Documentation Page				Form Approved OMB No. 0704-0188	
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1. REPORT DATE 30 SEP 2007		2. REPORT TYPE		3. DATES COVERED 00-00-2007 to 00-00-2007	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE Modular Microstructure Profiler (MMP)				5a. CONTRACT NUMBER	
				5b. GRANT NUMBER	
				5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER	
6. AUTHOR(S)				5d. PROJECT NUMBER	
				5e. TASK NUMBER	
				5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER	
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) University of Washington, Applied Physics Laboratory, 1013 NE 40th Street, Seattle, WA, 98105				8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER	
9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)				10. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S)	
				11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)	
12. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT Approved for public release; distribution unlimited					
13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES					
14. ABSTRACT					
15. SUBJECT TERMS					
16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:			17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT Same as Report (SAR)	18. NUMBER OF PAGES 2	19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON
a. REPORT unclassified	b. ABSTRACT unclassified	c. THIS PAGE unclassified			

Modular Microstructure Profiler (MMP)

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Grant Number: N00014-07-1-1014

LONG-TERM GOALS

This grant is to replace the Modular Microstructure Profiler (MMP) that was lost in Monterey Bay in August 2006 during AESOP, apparently due to an attack by a large shark.

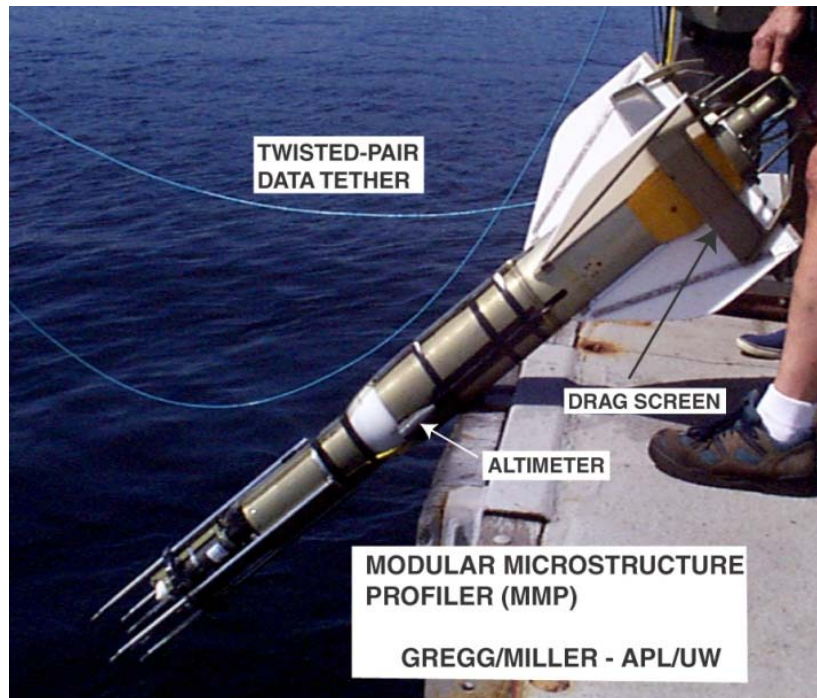


Figure 1: An MMP on deck ready to launch. MMPs are attached to the ship by twisted-pair data cables containing Kevlar for strength. Drag screen swings out to slow descent and folds in during ascent. Sensors are mounted on the lower end and protected by guard rods.

OBJECTIVES

Our objective is to complete the work as soon as possible.

APPROACH

The new instrument, MMP4, will be made as similar to the one lost, MMP2, as possible.

WORK COMPLETED

Because the money was received only a few weeks ago, fabrication has not begun. Because some electronic components in MMP2 are no longer made, it was built in 1993, new ones have been selected. Also, because MMP2 mechanical components were designed using an old CAD system, some of the drawings are being updated.

RESULTS

None have been obtained.

IMPACT/APPLICATIONS

Completion of MMP4 will allow continuous microstructure profiling for extended times during future ONR, NSF and NUWC projects we are undertaking.

RELATED PROJECTS

We use MMPs to provide background measurements to a NUWC project under Puget Sound Measurements (N00014-07-G-0557). Having MMP4 will allow us to operate continuously, instead of having to wait for an hour to charge batteries after operating for four hours.